
WISCONSIN MEDICAID UPDATE

July 16, 1996

UPDATE 96-25

TO:

Hospitals

Independent Laboratories

Physicians

Portable X-ray Providers

Radiology Services Rate Changes - Effective August 1, 1996

Radiology rate changes

Wisconsin Medicaid's radiology reimbursement will be changed to be the same as the *current* Medicare rates effective August 1, 1996. The maximum allowable fees (maximum fees) for radiology services are revised using the Medicare resource based relative value scale (RBRVS).

Specifically, the new maximum fees are modified to coincide with *current* Medicare Milwaukee county rates for professional, technical, and total components. This change may alter the percent of the total paid for technical and professional components.

RBRVS and RVUs

RBRVS is a Medicare national standard that assigns relative value units (RVUs) based on the complexity of procedures.

The RVU's reflect the relative costs associated with each radiology code and are composed of all of the following:

- professional practice expenses which include overhead expenses such as

rent, staff salaries, equipment, and supply expenses

- professional liability insurance or malpractice expenses
- professional work expenses which include the time and intensity of effort and other resources required to furnish the service

Billing information

This rate change does not affect current billing requirements for radiology services. Continue to bill your usual and customary fees for services provided.

Wisconsin Medicaid pays the lesser of your usual and customary fees or the new Medicaid maximum allowable fees.

POH 1516

What's new...

Wisconsin Medicaid is in the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) formerly known as the Department of Health and Social Services.

If you happen to be out "surfing" the Internet and feel like visiting the DHFS Web site, you can find it at this address:

<http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/>